

Welcome to the Siegel Lab

I am excited to offer you an opportunity within my lab to explore your interests in computationally guided enzyme design and discovery. This document is meant to provide some guidelines regarding working in the Siegel lab. As an undergraduate at UC Davis you have a unique opportunity to explore and obtain hands-on experience in many professional fields. Finding a field where you enjoy both the questions being addressed as well as the day-to-day work itself can make you a passionate scientist. My passion is in computationally guided enzyme discovery and design, and through this opportunity I hope you find out if it is yours as well.

Hours: There are no specific or required hours. I understand your schedule is in constant flux. My general rule of thumb is that you should spend at least 10 hours a week in lab to get anything out of it. The more time you are here, the more productive and valuable your experience will be.

Credits: Unless you are in danger of going over the cap for credits or it is summer quarter, I encourage students to take 1-5 credits for working in the lab.

Questions: While you will be given an initial lab supervisor, please remember they have their own projects and the entire lab is your resource. Get to know the lab members and be comfortable asking anyone a question!

Letter of Recommendation: To receive the best and most personalized letter from me it is important I have documentation on your work and progress in the lab. The best way to do this is through jointly developing a manuscript describing your work for bioRxiv. If you decide to leave the lab or do not invest sufficient time in the lab before completing this task, I will write you a letter, it will just be more generic. By working in the lab regularly this should be achievable in 6-12 months with a normal school load.

Cleanliness: Anytime you do an experiment be sure to leave time to clean up. Not cleaning up after yourself is unacceptable and grounds for being asked to leave the lab. A dirty lab is not only unpleasant, but presents a breeding ground for contamination that will effect everyone's ongoing experiments, and even result in the lab shutting down.

Collegiality: It is important to emphasize that this is a professional research lab. While fun in the lab is important, all conversations and interpersonal interactions within the lab must remain appropriate for our highly diverse group and abide by the UC Davis Principles of Community (<http://occr.ucdavis.edu/poc/>). If you ever experience or observe any form of hostility in the lab, please notify me immediately.

Leaving the Lab: While I hope you enjoy your time I want to emphasize that I will understand if this area is not your passion and you choose to leave the lab. I personally switched through four labs as an undergraduate on my journey to find my passion!

Website: Be sure to send a picture and your information (see group website for template) to Ashley (awvater@ucdavis.edu) for the group website - <https://sites.google.com/site/ucdsiegellab/home>

Email: To receive important lab information and updates from the lab have Tiffany Zhang <yuezh@ucdavis.edu> sign you up on our list-serve. Emails are fairly sporadic and won't be a burden on your inbox.

Group Meeting: We generally have group meeting on Friday afternoons from 3-5. It is highly encouraged that you attend, but understandable if you have classes or travel conflicts.

Intellectual Property: There are several projects in the lab with significant IP being developed. To avoid difficulties with ownership of IP, it is critical that all students volunteering in the lab sign the volunteer form that is provided by the Genome Center business office.

Safety: All students are expected to follow UC and Lab policies at all times and take the lab safety fundamentals online course. Ryan Caster <rwcaster@ucdavis.edu> is our safety officer and will show you where our SOPs and safety documentation is located, as well as provide you with information on the required UC Davis safety courses for working in the lab. Everyone is expected to wear proper PPE at all times within the lab. If you are ever concerned about your personal safety within the lab, please do not hesitate to contact me directly as soon as possible. *It is of the utmost importance the lab is a safe and enjoyable environment for everyone to work in.*

Welcome to the lab! I am looking forward to working together.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Dr. Justin B. Siegel
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Signature: _____